

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A system for renting a construction machine from a provider of a rental service of the construction machine to a person seeking the rental service of the construction machine through a network, comprising:

a first network terminal configured to enable the provider to input and update, when the provider gets access to the network, a piece of basic information related to a specification, a rental situation and a location of the construction machine for rent;

a second network terminal including a display screen, the second network terminal configured to enable the person seeking the rental service when the person gets access to the network, to input another piece of basic information related to a specification of a construction machine of his choice, rental period information including a rental period of his choice, and a rental place of his choice in such a manner that the input includes an option to identify a preferred option of one of the specification, the rental period and the rental place;

a network server adapted to be connected, respectively, to the first and the second network terminals through the network,

the network server including:

means for holding the piece of basic information related to the specification, the rental situation and the location of the construction machine for rent which are input from the first network terminal through the network; and

means for searching with information including the specification, the rental period and the rental place input by the second network terminal as search items, for information related to a rentable construction machine on the basis of the piece of basic information related to the specification, the rental situation and the location as input from the first network terminal and held by the network server, ~~and~~

wherein ~~means for providing~~ the server is configured to provide the second network terminal with the information related to the construction machine for rent as a calendar, the second network terminal displaying information on the display screen in the form of the calendar, related to the rental situation of the construction machine for rent, the rental situation including whether the construction machine is rented, vacant, under course of negotiations and in ~~under~~ course of maintenance, ~~or out of operation~~ at least during a period corresponding to the rental period inputted through the second network terminal,

wherein the means for searching carries out an equivocal search, after having searched in favor of the preferred option out of the specification, the rental period and the rental place.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 17, wherein said information related to location comprises a hierarchical structure comprising an upper location information showing a wider area as an upper class and a lower location information showing a narrower area as a lower class, and the network server searches for information related to the construction machine for rent with the upper location information as an essential search item and the lower location information as an equivocal search item.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 17, wherein said construction machine for rent is a tracklaying construction machine.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 17, wherein said information related to the specification comprises a hierarchical structure comprising an upper specification that defines a condition of not easy to change as an upper class and a lower specification that defines easy to change as a lower class, and said network server

searches for information related to the construction machine for rent with information related to the upper specification as an essential search item, and with information related to the lower specification as an in equivocal search item

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 17, wherein said network server provides the second network terminal with information related to the construction machine for rent as a list including information related to the location of the construction machine for rent.

Claim 22 (New): A method for renting a construction machine from a provider of a rental service of the construction machine to a person seeking the rental service of the construction machine through a network, the method comprising:

enabling a provider to input and update with a first network terminal, when the provider gets access to the network, a piece of basic information related to a specification, a rental situation and a location of the construction machine for rent;

enabling the person seeking the rental service to input another piece of information to a second network terminal, when the person gets access to the network, related to a specification of a construction machine of his choice, rental period information including a rental period of his choice, and a rental place of his choice in such a manner that the input includes an option to identify a preferred option of one of the specification, the rental period and the rental place;

connecting a network server respectively, to the first and the second network terminals through the network;

holding with the network server, the piece of basic information related to the specification, the rental situation and the location of the construction machine for rent which are input from the first network terminal through the network;

searching using the network server, with information including the specification, the rental period and the rental place input by the second network terminal as search items, for information related to a rentable construction machine on the basis of the piece of basic information related to the specification, the rental situation and the location as input from the first network terminal and held by the network server;

providing the second network terminal with the information related to the construction machine for rent as a calendar;

displaying information on a display screen in the form of a calendar, related to the rental situation of the construction machine for rent, the rental situation including whether the construction machine is rented, vacant, under course of negotiations and in course of maintenance, at least during a period corresponding to the rental period inputted through the second network terminal; and

carrying out an equivocal search, after having searched in favor of the preferred option out of the specification, the rental period and the rental place.